MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI DILIP KUMAR RAY): (a) Food Processing Industries are both in the organised and unorganised sector and their details are not maintained centrally. However, according to the Annual Survey of Industries 1992-93, there were 29747 food processing units in the country in the factory sector. Out of these, 3637 units were in the State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) All food processing industries are de-licenced except for brewing and distillation of alcoholic beverages, sugar and those items reserved for small scale sector.

(c) The Ministry under its plan schemes extends financial assistance to State Government Organisations/Cooperatives/Voluntary Organisations etc. for setting up/expansion/modernisation of food processing units. Tamil Nadu State Government also provides various incentives such as subsidy for locating the unit in backward areas, subsidy on electrical energy, subsidy on generator etc.

Restrictions against defaulting SEBs

1393. SHRI DIPANKAR MUKHERJEE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 131 given in the Rajya Sabha on the 21st November, 1996 and state:

(a) whether any regulation or power restriction was imposed in respect of UPSEB, DESU, BSEB, J&K, MPEB, RSEB, MSEB, WBSEB and GRINCO (ORISSA); and

(b) if so, the details of power restricted and the duration of regulation for each of the above defaulting SEBs?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES: (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI): (a) and (b) During the current year power supply to UPSEB was restricted from 14.5.1996 to 14.6.1996 by NTPC/POWERGRID and to WBSEB from 22.5.1996 to 31.5.1996. The Regulation of power supply to DESU has been deferred till 31st December, 1996 subject to the condition that DESU would pay the current dues from 1.1.1997. In connection with regulation of supply, UPSEB has been advised on 28.11.1996 to limit its drawals. NTPC HAS REQUESTED THE BENEFICIARY States/UTs to enhance the LC amount to the level of energy drawal to avoid regulation of power supply.

Metro rail in Delhi

1394. SHRI K. RAHMAN KHAN: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any plan to lay metro rail in Delhi is in the pipeline; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Delhi MRTS project was approved by the Union Cabinet on 17th September, 1996. The Modified First phase of the Project will comprise of a network of 11 Kms. of underground (metro corridor from Vishwa Vidyalaya to Central Secretariat via ISBT, Old/New Delhi Railway stations, Connaught Place) alongwith 44.3 Kms. of elevated/surface rail corridors (Subzi Mandi to Holambi Kalan via Azadpur, Transport Nagar, Badli, Siraspur and Iradat Nagar and from Shahadara to Nagloi via ISBT, Rampura and Mangolpuri). The total estimated cost of the project at April 96 prices is Rs. 4860 crores. About 60% of cost of the project will be met through loans from agencies like OECF (Japan) and about 30% of cost of the project will be funded by the Government of India and Government of NCT of Delhi, by way of equity, in equal proportions. The balance amount will be raised through

the property development the dedicated taxes/cesses. The project will be implemented by the Delhi Metro Rail Corporation—a Company already set up for the purpose.

OECF (Japan) has intimated their willingness to provide a Yen loan equivalent to about 60% of the total eligible cost of the project at an interest rate of 2.3% per annum. However the loan agreement is likely to be signed on a date to be intimated by OECF.

The project execution is likely to commence during 1997-98 subject to availability of funds from OECF.

Poverty alleviation programmes for STs

1395. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various poverty alleviation programmes implemented/ being implemented for the benefit of Scheduled Tribes in rural areas during the Eighth Five Year Plan;

(b) the allocations made for the same and the expenditure incurred thereon;

(c) whether any target has been fixed under the programmes;

(d) if so, the progress made in this regard, so far; and

(e) the number of beneficiaries, State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH): (a) The major poverty alleviation programmes being implemented in the rural areas of the country during the Eighth Five Year Plan are (i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP); (ii) Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY); and Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS). These programmes also cover the Scheduled Tribes.

(i) Integrated Rural Development Programme (IRDP), a Centrally Sponsored Scheme is being implemented in all the blocks of the country. It aims at providing self-employment opportunities to the rural poor through assistance in the form of subsidy and bank credit to enable them to acquire productive assets and appropriate skills to cross the poverty line on a sustained basis. The target group consists largely of small and marginal farmers, agricultural labourers and rural artisans whose annual income is below the poverty line. Within the target group there is an ensured coverage of 50% for SC/ST families.

(ii) The Jawahar Rozgar Yojana (JRY) programme is a wage employment programme which is being implemented throughout the country since 1989 with the basic objective of generating additional gainful employment for the unemployed and under-employed persons in the rural areas and also to strengthen rural infrastructure and assets in favour of the rural poor. Under this programme preference is given to SC/ST. At least 22.5% of the funds at the district level as also the panchayat level are required to be spent on creation of assets directly beneficial to SCs/STs.

(iii) The Employment Assurance Scheme (EAS) was launched on 2nd October, 1993 in 1752 identified backward blocks situated in drought prone, desert, tribal and hill areas, in which the revamped public distribution system was in operation. The EAS has now been extended to cover 3206 blocks of the country in all States and UTs excluding Goa, Punjab, Chandigarh, Delhi and Pondicherry. Of these 1115 blocks covered under the Integrated Tribal Development Project (ITDP) and 133 blocks are under the Modified Area Development Approach (MADA) blocks having more than 30% SC/ST population and 15% ST population. Under this scheme assured employment for 100 days of